

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 02500 050219Z
ACTION INR-07

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 AF-10 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 /031 W
-----099325 060324Z /64

R 050054Z AUG 77
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
SECSTATE WASHDC 4771

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 2500

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, PINR, PINT, IV
SUBJECT: BACKGROUND INFORMATION OF FORMER IVORY COAST UN
REPRESENTATIVE, SIMEON AKE

REF: ABIDJAN 7253

1. ACCORDING TO USUN OFFICERS WHO HAVE WORKED WITH HIM,
AKE IS AN ABLE DIPLOMAT, A RESPECTED LEADER WITHIN THE
AFRICAN GROUP, IS APPROACHABLE AND HELPFUL. HE WAS
VERY WELL THOUGHT OF BY THE FRENCH HERE AND WAS CLOSE
TO THE PRESENT FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER, LOUIS DE GUIRINGUAD.
AKE PERSONALLY OWNS SEVERAL TOWNHOUSES IN NEW YORK WHICH
HE RENTS PROFITABLY, AND SOME OF THE FRENCH LIVE IN
HIS TOWNHOUSES. HE THINKS PROBABLY AS MUCH LIKE A
FRENCHMAN AS HE DOES AN AFRICAN. HE DOES NOT GO ALONG
WITH THE FRENCH ON EVERYTHING,BUT ALMOST EVERYTHING.

2. AKE IS VERY FAVORABLY DISPOSED TOWARDS THE US AND
WAS HELPFUL AND COOPERATIVE WITH USUN MISOFFS. WE HAVE
PUT A LOT OF EFFORT INTO HIM, AND HE IS APPRECIATIVE OF
IT, AS HE WAS OF OUR HELP AT ABIDJAN LATE LAST SPRING.
HE HAS BEEN WILLING TO WORK WITH US ON AMERICAN TERRITORIES
IN THE COMMITTEE OF 24 AND ALSO IN THE FOURTH COMMITTEE
(DECOLONIZATION). HE WAS VERY FOND OF GOVERNOR SCRANTON
AND HAS DEVELOPED A GOOD PERSONAL AND WORKING RELATIONSHIP
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WITH AMBASSADOR YOUNG.

3. AKE'S POLITICAL VIEWS ARE VERY MODERATE-TO-CONSERVATIVE,
REFLECTING THE POSITION OF HIS OWN COUNTRY; YET AT THE
SAME TIME, HE HAS GOOD PERSONAL CONTACTS WITH THE MORE
RADICAL BLACK AFRICAN COUNTRIES. HE GIVES THE IMPRESSION
OF BEING CLOSE TO PRESIDENT FELIX HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY BUT MISOFFS

OF VIEW THAT HE ACTUALLY IS NOT AS CLOSE TO HIM AS HE WOULD
HAVE OTHERS BELIEVE. WHILE IN NEW YORK, AKE WAS A GOOD FRIEND OF,
AND GREATELY ASSISTED BY, HIS NO. 3 MAN, FIRST SECRETARY
KOFFI KOUAME.

4. AKE IS MARRIED AND HAS SEVERAL CHILDREN. HE ENTERTAINS
WELL. HE IS A REAL "SWELL" AND IS VIEWED AS SUCH BY
LESS AFFLUENT AFRICANS. HE IS VERY OPEN, VERY APPROACHABLE,
AND YET VERY PROTOCOL-CONSCIOUS. HE SPEAKS EXCELLENT
ENGLISH.
LEONARD

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 05-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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